

**Frederick County SCD Board Meeting**  
**Tuesday, April 15, 2025**  
**Soil Conservation District Office**

**Supervisors in Attendance:** B. Sowers, M. Shafer, D. Flickinger, J. Falkenstein.

**Associates in Attendance:** S. Leatherman, R. Myers, S. Hipkins (leaves at 11:40am).

**Guests in Attendance:** District Manager, H. Hutchinson. Soil Conservation Coordinator, K. McAfee. B. Cammauf, NRCS, District Conservationist (arrives at 10:26am). Unknown caller (joins at 10:08am and leaves the call at 10:20am)

Meeting called to order by Chairman, B. Sowers at 9:08am.

**Meeting Minutes**

**Minutes approved from March Meeting by motion:** M. Shafer motioned, second by J. Falkenstein. All in agreement.

**Minutes approved from March Closed Session by motion:** J. Falkenstein, second by M. Shafer. All in agreement.

**Financial Reports**

**March Treasurers Report approved as filed by motion:** M. Shafer motioned, second by J. Falkenstein. All in agreement.

**Bank Account Reconciliation Report approved as filed by motion:** M. Shafer motioned, second by D. Flickinger. All in agreement.

**Expenses for the Month approved by motion:** J. Falkenstein motioned, second by M. Shafer. All in agreement.

**Old Business:**

1. SSCC: H. Hutchinson reports the SSCC meeting was held on March 20<sup>th</sup> at the Washington County Extension Office. H. Hutchinson reviews PowerPoint of the supervisor's application and appointment process.
  - a. FCSCD is the only district that will have a complete rollover in supervisors as there are no staggered terms.
  - b. Dwight Dotterer reviewed Food Processing Residuals (FPR) legislation and implementation. Liquid FPR must be injected and only one pass across a field. Anything fed to animals (brewers' grain or fruit waste) is not considered FPR. Fees are \$175 for land application permits, \$100 for storage, and \$50 for transport.
  - c. Hans Schmidt reported that 4 LEAF listening sessions were held.
  - d. D. Flickinger thanks S. Leatherman, J. Falkenstein, and H. Hutchinson for attending in person.
2. MASCD: D. Flickinger and K. McAfee gave a report on the MASCD meeting held on 3/25.
  - a. NRCS: Suzy Daubert gave a report on the increased workload with Frederick County being one of the busiest. The last reduction in the workforce was from 1992-1994; it started at

- 17,000 employees and was reduced to 12,000. IRA payments are still paused, and April 20<sup>th</sup> is the day the executive order says it will unfreeze.
- b. MDA: Hans Schmidt gave an update the budget. If the Trust Fund money is taken there will be 49 SCD positions effected and will reduce the Cover Crop program to 10million. Bay Week is 4/20-4/26, PBS will host a spot for MDA for homeowner outreach.
  - c. UMD/UME: Darren Jarboe spoke and noted that they will be releasing a strategic plan and plan to release it in the next two months. There have been 1230 nutrient management plans requested, 820 supplied complete information, and 740 plans have been written. Currently reviewing all expenditures and open positions.
3. WIP Meeting: H. Hutchinson reported that she and MDA staff met with Elizabeth for the progress assessment. The office is doing well and has met many of their goals. They are falling behind on number of acres under a conservation plan.
  4. Ag Complex: J. Falkenstein reported that Paramount is set to spread lime at 2T/Ac. B. Sowers reported that he cannot get ahold of H&H to fix the well cap. M. Shafer will reach out to Phillips to see if they can fix the well cap.

#### **New Business:**

1. Sandy Spring Bank: H. Hutchinson reported that Sandy Spring Bank is merging with Atlantic Union Bank.
2. MDA General Fund MOU: H. Hutchinson reported that she received the budget request from Byron. H. Hutchinson populated it and provided it in the meeting packet for supervisor review. She included 5 supervisors for attending both the winter and summer MASCD meetings.
  - a. J. Falkenstein motioned, second by D. Flickinger, to sign and approve the MDA General Fund MOU. All in agreement.
3. SSCC: The next SSCC meeting is on Thursday, April 17, in Annapolis. There will be a call in option and that information is included in board packets.
4. MASCD Summer Meeting: MASCD Summer Meeting will be held from August 4-6 at Rocky Gap Resort/Casino. H. Hutchinson reported that full registration is \$250/person. There will be a pig roast on Monday evening. Supervisors will be registered after next meeting, so please look to see if you will be able to attend.
  - a. Auction Item: D. Flickinger motions, second by M. Shafer, to donate \$300 to the MASCD Endowment Fund in lieu of an auction item. All in agreement.
  - b. MASCD Outstanding Employee Nomination: J. Falkenstein motions, second by M. Shafer, to nominate Emily Doney as the MASCD Outstanding Employee. All in agreement. K. McAfee to write the nomination.
  - c. MASCD Sponsorship: M. Shafer motions, second by D. Flickinger, to sponsor MASCD Summer Meeting as a 'Gold' sponsor (\$1,000). All in agreement.
5. Envirothon: Competition will be held on April 22 at Cunningham Falls Lake area. K. McAfee ordered the pizzas and increased the number as there were not enough last year. B. Burch noted that he called and increased the order an additional 10 pizzas.
  - a. B. Burch notes that there will be 24 teams this year and every FCPS school will participate except Tuscarora.

6. George A. Nicholson, Sr. Scholarship: K. McAfee reported that the scholarship closed on 4/11 and there were eight applicants. H. Hutchinson suggests forming a committee and report back to the next meeting on their selection. H. Hutchinson noted that there is \$1600 towards the scholarship – this amount is in excess of the \$25,000 base that is to be kept.
  - a. Scholarship Committee: S. Leatherman, D. Flickinger, and R. Myers.
7. CBF Soil Health Grant Report: K. McAfee presented the CBF Grant Report for the first reporting period. This included the speaker fees for Luke Jones.
8. SES Request: H. Hutchinson reported that she received a request from Sabillasville Environmental School as they would like to invite the MAEF Lab back and are looking for a sponsor. Last year FCSCD gave \$1500.
  - a. J. Falkenstein motioned, second by D. Flickinger, to give \$2000 to SES for the MAEF Lab to return. All in agreement.
9. Annual Report: H. Hutchinson reported that K. McAfee developed the Annual Report for FY24.
  - a. J. Falkenstein motioned, D. Flickinger second, to approve the FY24 Annual Report. All in agreement.
10. Small Pond Review: H. Hutchinson submitted a letter of inquiry to Montgomery SCD board of Supervisors to see if they were interested in reviewing some of our small ponds due to the excess workload here. There has been no communication yet.
11. Forest Clearing Workgroup: H. Hutchinson reported that they met on April 9<sup>th</sup>. There was discussion about how counties handle forest clearing. There needs to be additional coordination among the various divisions within MDA to ensure they are comfortable with a final interpretation. Ray Bahr will follow up on this.
12. Nutrient Management Space- H. Hutchinson reported that Bryan Harris came to her looking for space to store his files. Could propose the FCSCD rented space, but need to check lease if it is allowed.

**Communications:** No report.

**NRCS Report:** B. Cammauf reports that IRA funds are still frozen, but extra Farm Bill funds have been received. Staff was offered another deferred resignation and an additional 2,000 people took it. G. Garst has been helping in the Carroll County office as they only have a District Conservationist and no staff.

**MDA Report:** No Report.

**Cooperating Agencies:** No Report.

**Next Meeting:** Scheduled for Tuesday, May 20, 2025, at 9:00AM at the Soil Conservation District Office.

**Adjournment:** J. Falkenstein motioned, seconded by D. Flickinger, to adjourn the regular meeting at 12:08pm and that the board meet in special closed session to comply with a specific constitutional, statutory, or judicially imposed requirement that prevents public disclosures about a particular proceeding or matter as authorized by General Provisions Article Section 3-305(b)(13). The motion carried unanimously.